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October 5, 2005

Pam Bonrud, Executive Director
SD Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Bldg. 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RECEIVED

OCT 06 2005

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: **IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MIDCONTINENT
COMMUNICATIONS TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE IN A RURAL
SERVICE AREA**
Docket TC05-161

Dear Pam:

Enclosed please find an Original and Ten (10) copies of A Petition to Intervene on behalf of Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. Larson

JDL/amb

Enclosures (11)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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OCT 06 2005

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS TO
PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE IN A
RURAL SERVICE AREA

)
)
) DOCKET TC05-161
) PETITION TO INTERVENE
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)

SOUTH DAKOTA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Santel Petition for Intervention

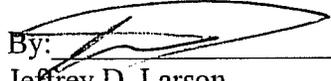
Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc. hereby petitions the Commission for intervention in the above captioned proceeding pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.03 and 20:10:01:15.05. In support hereof, Santel states as follows:

1. Midcontinent Communications has filed with the Commission an "Application for Amended Certificate of Authority" pursuant to ARSD 20:10:32:03, 20:10:32:15 and 20:10:32:18. specifically, seeking authorization to provide local exchange services in the rural exchange of Wolsey, South Dakota. The Wolsey exchange is currently served by Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc.
2. According to Midcontinent's application filed in this matter it would appear that it is their intention to resell and compete for various services in the local exchange area served currently by Santel, the incumbent local exchange carrier. Further they seek a waiver of some of the rural service requirements. Accordingly, their Petition has the potential to affect the business interests of Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc.
3. Santel seeks intervention in this proceeding based on the foregoing.

Dated this 5 day of October, 2005.

Respectfully,

SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS
COOPERATIVE, INC.

By: 
Jeffrey D. Larson
Corporate Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that an original and ten (10) copies of the foregoing document was sent by First Class Mail via US Postal Service to:

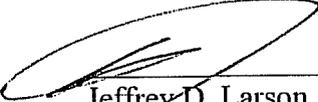
Pam Bonrud
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

A copy was sent by First Class Mail via US Postal Service to:

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